

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It is the obligation of the media when airing a program under the guise of "news" that it be a balanced report. The media has too much control of PUBLIC airwaves if it can use it for unabashed, partisan, smear campaigns.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Please take action immediately, to preserve the integrity of our public airwaves and for our country's democracy. Thank you.